



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
INSTALLATIONS AND ENVIRONMENT
110 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0110

AUG 8 2011

The Honorable Bill Shuster
Member of Congress
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3809

Dear Representative Shuster:

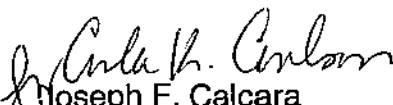
I am responding to the June 23, 2011 inquiry from your constituent, Mr. Harold C. Gabler III, concerning the transfer of property at Letterkenny Army Depot (LEAD).

The property in question at LEAD is a National Priority List (NPL) site, as designated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The combination of extensive contamination and complex geology has resulted in a difficult cleanup program that requires a comprehensive approach. As an NPL site the EPA is the lead regulator, and is responsible for approving all cleanup actions, reviews of reports and related documentation, and approval of all decision documents. The Army and EPA have bundled cleanup sites and land areas into parcels that can transfer together as cleanup is completed and Records of Decision (ROD) approved by EPA. The property in question, parcel C, is part of the phase V transfer property for which EPA has not yet approved the ROD. The Army submitted additional comments to EPA on July 8, 2011, and our cleanup team is expecting to complete the transfer of this property in December 2011. I have no control over EPA's decision process or the pace of their reviews. I certainly understand Mr. Gabler's frustration.

I will request that our local staff make every effort to make this work a high priority and complete the ROD and subsequent transfer as quickly as possible. The only alternative is an "Early Transfer" under the governing environmental regulations which requires the approval of the Governor and the Administrator of EPA. Embarking on this action would take longer than the currently projected December 2011 transfer date.

Thank you for your continuing support to our Soldiers and their Families.

Sincerely,


Joseph F. Calcara
Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army
(Installations and Housing)